

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PROTECTING OUR OCEANS

HON. SUZAN K. DeIBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during Capitol Hill Ocean Week to highlight the critical role our oceans play in our lives, our economy, and for so many marine species.

In 2012, the Pacific Region's seafood industry generated \$7.5 billion in sales for Washington state while seafood processors and dealers accounted for 16,000 jobs.

The Magnuson Stevens Act, the law which governs sound stewardship and management of our fisheries is due for reauthorization. Unfortunately, the reauthorization bill moving through the House would take us backwards at a critical time.

The bill would roll back a number of conservation provisions at the expense of numerous efforts to increase fish populations. In fact, the bill would allow overfishing on already depleted populations. In my district, a commercial fishery disaster declaration was made for the Fraser River sockeye salmon fishery this year. Our tribes have been good stewards of the fishery, but due to a changing climate beyond their control, fish populations are decreasing.

This bill does not address our changing climate, such as the increasing acidification of our oceans. I urge my colleagues to instead pursue policies that will preserve our oceans for generations to come.

HONORING MR. DICK BUTLER

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Richard (Dick) Butler on the occasion of his retirement celebration on June 5, 2014, after a long and distinguished career with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

Early in his service with NOAA, Dick spent several years as a tuna-porpoise observer and under difficult working conditions he and his fellow observers brought back new information about the magnitude of dolphin mortality, setting the stage for profound changes in fishing practices management of incidental marine mammal take.

While serving as the North Coast Branch Chief, Mr. Butler led several notable efforts such as addressing gravel mining in the Russian River, and he would go on to play an important role in the development of the Russian River Biological Opinion, leading to the successful establishment of Warm Spring hatchery and other key conservation actions in the

Russian River. Mr. Butler also helped build a strong conservation partnership with the Sonoma County Water Agency resulting in direct conservation benefits on-the-ground.

Mr. Butler's leadership and expertise have greatly benefitted NOAA and USFWS and will have lasting impacts on our ecosystem and natural resources for years to come. Please join me in expressing deep appreciation to Dick Butler for his long and impressive career and his exceptional record of service to our community.

OPPOSITION TO H. AMDT. 757 TO H.R. 4660, COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the amendment offered by my colleague and friend from Florida.

First, I want to commend the gentleman from Florida for his tireless efforts on behalf of his constituents. I recognize and appreciate the challenges many of his constituents are having with the Gulf of Mexico Council and the mismanagement issues plaguing the Red Snapper fishery.

As a member of the authorizing committee and someone who has spent decades dealing with fisheries issues, I am concerned about the implications of this amendment to fishermen in my district and in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Virginia Waterman's Association has contacted me to express their opposition to this amendment, which would limit future catch share programs. Fishing has always been a key component of Virginia's economy, and the health of the resource is vital to its future. There are enormous benefits to the proper management of fisheries.

Fisheries management, however, is a complex issue. It requires good science. It requires good analytics. And, more importantly, it requires good management tools. Catch shares can be a useful management tool, and they have proven to be an effective management program in many fisheries, including striped bass, surf clam, quahog, golden tilefish, and scallop. Additionally, in Virginia there is interest in new catch shares for tautog and blue crab.

But the decisions over whether to use them are best left to the regional fishery management councils, which were established by Congress for this very purpose. The participants on those regional fishery management councils have extensive knowledge of their local fisheries and are better equipped than Congress to make decisions on what management regimes to use in their regions.

I understand the concerns of my colleagues about the way some fisheries are managed in the United States. I share some of those con-

cerns and look forward to continuing working through the House Natural Resources Committee to address them during reauthorization of Magnuson-Stevens. I do not believe that this amendment is the right approach to solving fishery management problems, nor is it good for the Commonwealth of Virginia. I am therefore opposed to the amendment.

HONORING BARBARA KELLEHER FITZGERALD

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the service and dedication of Mrs. Barbara Kelleher Fitzgerald, who is being honored as an integral part of the community at the 6th Annual Mount Mercy Academy 5K in Buffalo, New York.

Barbara is a Mount Mercy alumna from the class of 1978, and has since been completely committed to several volunteer event committees at Mount Mercy Academy and has served on the Mount Mercy Academy Alumnae Board.

As a teacher for over 30 years she has touched the lives of many. She began her career at St. Thomas Aquinas school. For the past 22 years she has worked as a Pre-K and Kindergarten teacher at Hamlin Park School #74. The dedication she shows to the children she serves is unmatched.

Among her many community action roles, Barbara has been the president of the Mercy League of Mercy Hospital, the St. Thomas Aquinas Home School Association, Bishop Timon St. Jude Parent Guild, Mount Mercy Academy Parent Guild, and continues to be an active member of the Notre Dame Academy Parent Guild and Sports Committee. Barbara has volunteered as a coach for St. Thomas Aquinas and Notre Dame Academy as well as the South Buffalo Soccer Association.

In addition to these great works, Barbara is a founding member of the Women's Conclave, a discussion group in the local community designed to empower women to handle their unique challenges of life.

Amid her involvement in these influential leadership positions, Barbara identifies her children as her greatest accomplishment. Their family—Barbara, Barry, Barry Jr., Kevin, and Mary Kate—resides in South Buffalo. Barb credits her commitment to community service to the example set by her parents, Patrick and Barb Massett Kelleher and her late aunt Sister Mary Annunciata Kelleher.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize the incredible legacy of Barbara Kelleher Fitzgerald. I am inspired by her boundless capacity to give of herself to the community and to her family. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Kelleher Fitzgerald for her years of service to

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